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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3629**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/659,915

Filed: September 11, 2000

Inventors:

Thomas E. Saulpaugh

Thomas E. Saarlaa
Gregory L. Slaughter

Gregory E. Smith
Eric Pouyoul

The Fouyoui Michael J. Duigou

Title: Automatic Lease Renewal
with Message Gates in a
Distributed Computing
Environment

§ Examiner: Fisher, Michael J.
§ Group/Art Unit: 3629
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-63600

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

August 5, 2005

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF JUNE 7, 2005

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of June 7, 2005, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.